



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
ORDER OF THE ARROW

LA310 – Issues: OA Relationships with Units

On-line Training

Objectives

- Understand the value of building relationships with individual units
- Discuss how to establish better communications between units and the Chapters/Lodge
- Identify ways to build a better relationship with the Council
- Discover opportunities to build relationships with Cub Packs



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Relationships

- re·la·tion·ship
 - rə 'lāSH(ə)n , SHip/
 - noun
 - plural noun: relationships
- the way in which two or more concepts, objects, or people are connected, or the state of being connected.
 - synonyms: connection, relation, association, link, correlation, correspondence, parallel, alliance, bond, interrelation, interconnection



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Purpose of the Lodge

- Simply put, the purpose of the Order of the Arrow and the Lodge is:
 - To promote camping & outdoor programs
 - To provide service to the Council
 - To provide Leadership Development
 - To give Cheerful Service to the Community



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OA Relationships

- As a Lodge, who do you work with?
"Good relationships don't just happen."
- *All Scout units*
 - *Packs, Troops, Teams, even Crews and Posts*
- *Your Districts*
- *Your Council*
- *Your Section*



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Relationship Building

Remember the day we first started talking to each other?

- This is an ongoing process
- Scoutmasters change
- District Leader's change
- Your Scout Executive Retires
- Change happens all the time



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First Steps

- Identify target units
- Make personal contact with unit leader
- One-on-one conversation
 - Merits of the OA
 - Enhanced leadership capabilities for youth
 - Youth commitment level enhancement
 - Dispel OA myths



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The Reluctant Scoutmaster

- Communication
 - OA Elections and OA Rep Program
 - Lodge Banquet invitation to Scoutmasters.
 - And then Recognize them.
 - University of Scouting OA session for Scoutmasters.
 - Encourage Scoutmasters without unit elections the past year to attend
 - How the OA fits into the Scouting program

A powerful idea communicates some of its strength to him who challenges it. -Marcel Proust



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The Reluctant Scoutmaster

- The OA will help
 - Teaching additional leadership skills
 - Offering additional leadership responsibilities.
- Sometimes all it takes is that personal conversation

“Let's take a walk. You can show me some of your memories and I'll show you some of mine.”

– Adam Berlin, The Number of Missing



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Getting to Know you

“The shortest distance between two people is a story”

-Patti Digh, Four-word Self-help: Simple Wisdom for Complex Lives

- Let's start with Troops and Teams
 - We have a built in program to help your Lodge and Chapters communicate with your units.
- The OA Troop/Team Representative



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The OA Representative

- Those who chose you need you!
- After you become an OA member, your unit still comes first, period.
- The OA Rep program facilitates communication between the unit and the chapter and lodge.
 - For details on this leadership position, here is the link on the OA website:
 - <http://www.oa-bsa.org/pages/content/troop-team-representative>



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Ideas for the OA Rep

- Chapter meetings invites.
- Unit Election/Camp Promo Teams
- Units help by keeping OA Rep information up-to-date with the Chapter/Lodge
 - This helps keep the lines of communication open
- Have an OA Rep table at Lodge Banquet

Communication – the human connection – is the key to personal and career success. – Paul J. Meyer



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Cub Pack Relationship

Cubs are the key to the future of Scouting

- Provide Arrow of Light, Cross-over and opening/closing flag ceremonies
- Provide support and instructors for Cub Leader Pow Wow and Baloo Training
- Support to Cub Day Camp and Cub Resident Camps
- Serve as a camping resource for packs
- OA Rep can be the liaison with their associated Pack
- Other Resources/ideas:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/cubscouts/resources/orderofthearrowinvolvement.aspx>



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Support the Program

- Provide service at Annual Council and District Dinners
- OA service project news and pictures in Council Newsletter
- The annual Lodge report to the Scout Executive
 - Keeps Council communication open
 - JTE!



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Be Advised

I always go back to Harry Truman: Should we drop an atomic bomb to save 100,000 lives? That's a hell of a decision to make. Did he make that decision by himself? No, he had advisers. –Lee Iacocca

- Don't be afraid to ask for help.
 - Your Associate Advisers
 - Chapter Advisers
 - Section Advisers
 - Other nearby Lodge Advisers



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In closing

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success. –Henry Ford

- Building relationships is one of the keys to success
- Communication will help achieve this
 - Use whatever it takes to get the word out.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help



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